

as I have had ^{it} in contemplation that should a convenient opportunity present I would like very well to belong to a family who had devoted their lives for the good of our western world. — I seem to be of that class whom God has designed to walk alone, and as one I can say am contented with the same. However I have a choice where I would wish to walk, and if not greatly deceived think I could cheerfully leave the place of my birth friends and all I hold dear if I might but be, but one feeble mean of evangelizing the world. — Thus much for missions. If these thoughts meet with acceptance shall wish to enter more deeply into the subject. And I have my reasons for introducing it now, which I wish to make known to you thinking you may give me some advice as to the course it would be best for me to pursue, especially for the present. I shall in my next throw some light upon this hint and shall depend upon your candour to advise me as you would a sister. —

P. Bodwell - Mrs.
June 22 - 1839
Your mother thinks best to send your clothes back and forth by the stage in preference to sending by canal boats. — only you just send a line where ~~you~~ she may find your bundles. — at least she thinks the stage the safest. However you can make your own way about it. Your Mother encloses three dollars which is all she can spare at present.

Your Friend in haste

Parent

P.S. please send how you got back to N. Haven also how you get along with your pecuniary affairs

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Farmington June 22 1829

Dear Cousin A.

I have not time to write a long letter now but just write a few words to send with your clothes. — Your mother intended to have sent the trunk Saturday but could not get it ready. As the stage will be along soon I must be brief.

I have not forgotten that I owe you a good long letter and but for the multiplicity of my engagements should have replied before this. I will however send this line as introductory to that I could hardly be reconciled at not seeing you last week but as it happened I was just two days too late. — However I can get along with such occurrences better than I once could. I have learned that when I cannot see my friends just when I would wish, it is because "the best time is not yet come." And so you see I manage to get along with the disappointments of life. —

As you have on a former occasion intimated to me, that you had thoughts of devoting your life as a Missionary. — I would here enquire (if I may) whether or not you have come to any conclusion on the subject? If so where is to be the place of your destination? or rather where is the place you have fixed upon in your mind? I hope not Africa. But if so I would not discourage you — I hope not Greece — (but if so, I would not hinder you. — If you are appointed to go on a foreign mission I wish I must say "the will of the Lord be done." How can I hinder you in so good a cause? Surely if I do the heathen world will rise up in judgement against me. — I am perhaps a little selfish in wishing you to continue in America.